



DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>
Environmental Review and Permitting
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1260
Sacramento, California 95814



CEQA Filing Fee No Effect Determination Form

Applicant Name:

Central Coast Regional Water
Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board)

Date Submitted: May 16, 2008

Applicant Address:

895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Project Name: Amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan) to (1) Remove the Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use for San Lorenzo River Estuary, (2) Modify San Lorenzo River Subbasin and Aptos-Soquel Subbasin Prohibition, and (3) Adopt Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Pathogens in San Lorenzo River Estuary, San Lorenzo River, Branciforte Creek, Camp Evers Creek, Carbonera Creek, and Lompico Creek (San Lorenzo River Watershed)

CEQA Lead Agency: Central Coast Water Board

CEQA Document Type: (ND, MND, EIR) Certified Regulatory Agency "Substitute Document"

SCH Number and/or local agency ID number: N/A

Project Location: San Lorenzo River Watershed, Santa Cruz County, California

Brief Project Description: This Project is an amendment to the Basin Plan that removes the Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use for San Lorenzo River Estuary, modifies the San Lorenzo River Subbasin and Aptos-Soquel Subbasin Prohibition, and adopts TMDLs and an Implementation Plan for Pathogens in the San Lorenzo River Watershed.

The removal of the Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use will de-designate the Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use in San Lorenzo River Estuary. Central Coast Water Board staff determined that this use was not an appropriate designation.

The modification of the San Lorenzo River Subbasin and Aptos-Soquel Subbasin Prohibition will serve as an effective prohibition for control of nonpoint source pollution and, as a result, improve water quality.

The TMDLs and Implementation Plan require actions that will result in a reduction in bacterial loading. The Central Coast Water Board staff identified sources that contributed, or were highly likely to have contributed bacteria to surface waters in the San Lorenzo River Watershed. The bacterial sources staff identified are: (1) storm drain discharges to municipally owned and operated storm sewer systems (MS4s)

required to be covered by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit; (2) sanitary sewer collection system spills and leaks (including private sewer laterals); (3) domesticated animal waste discharges in areas that do not drain to MS4s; (4) homeless person encampment discharges in areas that do not drain to MS4s, and (5) onsite wastewater disposal system discharges.

Central Coast Water Board staff also identified the parties responsible for each bacterial source. The Central Coast Water Board is not responsible for executing the actions in the Implementation Plan that will result in bacterial load reductions necessary to achieve the TMDLs. However, the Central Coast Water Board is the Agency requiring the responsible parties to execute the actions for compliance with the Implementation Plan and to achieve the TMDLs.

Attachments:

- A. California Environmental Quality Act "Substitute Document" Report for Basin Plan Amendment
- B. Resolution No. R3-2008-0001 Amending The Water Quality Control Plan For The Central Coast Basin To (1) Remove The Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use For San Lorenzo River Estuary, (2) Modify San Lorenzo River Subbasin and Aptos-Soquel Subbasin Prohibition, and (3) Adopt The Total Maximum Daily Loads For Pathogens In San Lorenzo River Estuary, San Lorenzo River, Branciforte Creek, Camp Evers Creek, Carbonera Creek, And Lompico Creek
- C. Staff Report for Regular Meeting of March 21, 2008

Determination: Based on a review of the Project as proposed, the Department of Fish and Game has determined that for purposes of the assessment of CEQA filing fees [F&G Code 711.4(c)] the project has no potential effect on fish, wildlife and habitat and the project as described does not require payment of a CEQA filing fee. This determination does not in any way imply that the project is exempt from CEQA and does not determine the significance of any potential project effects evaluated pursuant to CEQA.

Please retain this original determination for your records; you are required to file a copy of this determination with the County Clerk after your project is approved and at the time of filing of the CEQA lead agency's Notice of Determination (NOD). If you do not file a copy of this determination with the County Clerk at the time of filing of the NOD, the appropriate CEQA filing fee will be due and payable.

Without a valid No Effect Determination Form or proof of fee payment, the project will not be operative, vested, or final and any local permits issued for the project will be invalid, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 711.4(c)(3).

DFG Approval By: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____